

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method comprising:

~~determining at least two meaningful words in a program title of an electronic program guide;~~

~~determining a less descriptive word from the at least two meaningful words based on a frequency that each of the at least two meaningful words appear in a database;~~

~~selectively removing the less descriptive word, absent manual input, at least one character from a text of a the program title to create an abbreviated program title, the abbreviated program title retaining an essential meaning of the program title, the selectively removing comprising parsing the text of the program title, determining at least one nonessential, non-relational word of the program title, and removing the nonessential, non-relational word from the program title; and~~

~~displaying the abbreviated program title in a program title field of an onscreen the electronic program guide, the program title field capable of displaying a specified number of characters.~~

Claim 2 (Canceled)

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, ~~wherein selectively removing at least one character further includes~~including:

~~d)~~determining at least one relational word of the program title; and

~~e)~~replacing the at least one relational word with a representative character.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 3, ~~wherein selectively removing at least one character further includes~~including:

~~f)~~determining at least one essential word of the program title;

g) determine the number of characters necessary to display the at least one essential word;  
and

h) abbreviating the at least one essential word if the number of characters necessary to display the at least one essential word is greater than the specified number of characters.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 3, wherein in addition to removing the less descriptive word, selectively removing at least one character the method further includes:

f) determining a plurality of essential words of the program title;

g) determine the number of characters necessary to display the plurality of essential words; and

h) removing an essential word if the number of characters necessary to display the plurality of essential words is greater than the specified number of characters.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The method of claim ~~4~~<sup>+21</sup>, wherein the at least one nonessential, nonrelational word comprises all of the words selected from the group consisting of adverbs, adjectives, prepositions, and articles.

Claim 7 (Original): The method of claim 4, wherein the at least one essential word comprises all of the words selected from the group consisting of subject, object nouns, and verbs.

Claim 8 (Original): The method of claim 5, wherein an essential word occurring most frequently in a database is removed.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A machine-readable medium containing instructions which, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform a method, the method comprising:

determining at least two meaningful words in a program title;  
determining a less descriptive word from the at least two meaningful words based on a frequency that each of the at least two meaningful words appear in a database;

~~selectively removing the less descriptive word, absent manual input, at least one character from a text of a the program title to create an abbreviated program title, the abbreviated program title retaining an essential meaning of the program title, selectively removing comprising parsing the text of the program title, determining at least one nonessential, nonrelational word of the program title, and removing the nonessential, nonrelational word from the program title; and~~

displaying the abbreviated program title in a program title field of an onscreen program guide, ~~the program title field capable of displaying a specified number of characters.~~

Claim 10 (Canceled)

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The machine-readable medium of claim 9, wherein ~~selectively removing at least one character further includes~~ further comprising instructions for:

- a) determining at least one relational word of the program title; and
- b) replacing the at least one relational word with a representative character.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The machine-readable medium of claim 11, wherein ~~selectively removing at least one character further includes~~ further comprising instructions for:

- c) determining at least one essential word of the program title;
  - d) determine the number of characters necessary to display the at least one essential word;
- and
- e) abbreviating the at least one essential word if the number of characters necessary to display the at least one essential word is greater than the specified number of characters.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The machine-readable medium of claim 11, wherein ~~selectively removing at least one character further includes~~ comprising instructions for:

- f) determining a plurality of essential words of the program title;

g) determine the number of characters necessary to display the plurality of essential words; and

h) removing an essential word if the number of characters necessary to display the plurality of essential words is greater than the specified number of characters.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The machine-readable medium of claim 922, wherein the at least one nonessential, nonrelational word comprises all of the words selected from the group consisting of adverbs, adjectives, prepositions, and articles.

Claim 15 (Original): The machine-readable medium of claim 12, wherein the at least one essential word comprises all of the words selected from the group consisting of subject, object nouns, and verbs.

Claim 16 (Original): The machine-readable medium of claim 13, wherein an essential word occurring most frequently in a database is removed.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): An apparatus comprising:

a memory;

~~a program title stored within the memory;~~

~~a program title abbreviation software stored within the memory;~~

a processor configured to, upon execution of one or more computer readable instructions stored in the memory, perform a method comprising:~~execute the program title abbreviation software such that an abbreviated program title is created, absent manual input, the abbreviated program title containing a specified number of characters, the abbreviated program title retaining an essential meaning of the program title, the abbreviated title generated by parsing the text of the program title, determining at least one nonessential, nonrelational word of the program title, and removing the nonessential, nonrelational word from the program title;~~

(a) determining at least two meaningful words in a program title;

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (b) determining a less descriptive word from the at least two meaningful words based on a frequency that each of the two meaningful words appear in a database; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (c) selectively removing the less descriptive word from the program title to create an abbreviated program title; and~~

~~a display device configured to display the abbreviated program title in a program title field of an onscreen program guide capable of displaying the specified number of characters.~~

Claim 18 (Canceled)

Claim 19 (Currently Amended):     The apparatus of claim 17, wherein ~~the processor is further configured to the abbreviated program title is created, absent manual input, by:~~

~~a) parsing parse the text of the program title;~~

~~b) determining determine at least one nonessential, nonrelational word of the program title;~~

~~e) removing remove the nonessential, nonrelational work word from the program title;~~

~~d) determining determine at least one relational word of the program title; and~~

~~e) replacing replace the at least one relational word with a representative character.~~

Claim 20 (Currently Amended):     The apparatus of claim 17, wherein ~~the processor is further configured to the abbreviated program title is created, absent manual input, by:~~

~~a) parsing parse the text of the program title;~~

~~b) determining determine at least one nonessential, nonrelational word of the program title;~~

~~e) removing remove~~ the nonessential, nonrelational ~~work word~~ from the program title;

~~d) determining determine~~ at least one relational word of the program title; and

~~e) replacing replace~~ the at least one relational word with a representative character.

~~f) determining determine~~ at least one essential word of the program title;

~~g) determine~~ the number of characters necessary to display the at least one essential word; and

~~h) abbreviating abbreviate~~ the at least one essential word if the number of characters necessary to display the at least one essential word is greater than the specified number of characters.

Claim 21 (New): The method of claim 1, wherein in addition to removing the less descriptive word, the method further includes:

parsing the text of the program title,  
determining at least one nonessential, nonrelational word of the program title; and  
removing the nonessential, nonrelational word from the program title.

Claim 22 (New): The machine-readable medium of claim 9, further comprising instructions for:

parsing the text of the program title,  
determining at least one nonessential, nonrelational word of the program title; and  
removing the nonessential, nonrelational word from the program title.

Claim 23 (New): The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the method further comprises:

parsing the text of the program title,  
determining at least one nonessential, nonrelational word of the program title; and

removing the nonessential, nonrelational word from the program title.

Claim 24 (New): The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the apparatus is a set-top box.

Claim 25 (New): The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the apparatus is a head end.

Claim 26 (New): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein a satellite transmits a signal to a satellite dish connected to the set-box, which is connected to a television.

Claim 27 (New): The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the television is the display device.

Claim 28 (New): The method of claim 1, wherein the database includes a database of program titles.